

A

REVIEW

OF THE

STATE

OF THE

BRITISH NATION.

Thursday, August 24. 1710.

IT is a strange Task a Man Undertakes, when he writes to this *Lunatick Age* — When I said, *speaking of Nations*, The *Irish* were *Simple*, here's one tells me, I mean the *British*, Inhabiting *Ireland*, and he is for *Cutting my Throat* on one Side — When I say, my Lord *Clarendon* implicitly calls King *Charles I.* a Tyrant, here's another tells me in a *Bullying Irish Letter*, that I SAY, King *Charles I.* was a Tyrant, and he is for *cutting my Throat* on t'other Side — Now I have said, the new Ministry will put in practise the *Establish'd Rules* of the Revolution, and by Consequence be all *Whiggs*; I have another very civil Gentleman tells me, I have told the Queen she

has put a Sett of R——s into the Place of honest Men; and what's his Excellent *Logick* think you, to prove this? Pray read the Letter sent me by *Penny-Post*; the Original lies ready to be produc'd.

Review,

IN your *Impertinent Paper* of Saturday, you have taken such a Liberty, as deserves not only the Correction of the Gallows, but the Personal Correction of every Man that meets you, and 'twill be no more Sin to cut your Throat, than to kill a Dog — You Saucily tell her Majesty, she has turn'd out honest Men — And then Villainously call all those that are put into their Places, *Whiggs* —

Now

Now, Sir, do you know that to be Whigg, and to be a Rogue, is the same thing, that the Terms are Synonymous, and that you have therefore told the Queen she has put R — s into the Office — Know Sir, that the Ministry are all Loyal Subjects, true Church-Men; neither Presbyterian-Hypocrites, or Low-Church Betrayers of their Mother; and if they do not resent this Impudence of yours, and punish you severely, I will not fail to cut your Throat by G — d.

Really Gentlemen, this Letter requires no Answer; if I thought the Man was in earnest, I would say something to it; but I hope better Things of him, let him be who he will — And therefore adjourning my Discourse with him, till he comes to perform his Vow — Which I have nothing to say to, but to desire him, if he must do it, to do it by Day-Light: I shall go on with the thing itself.

Hard is the Case, I say, of an Author, that when he speaks of Great Men, he must neither say they are honest Men, nor K — s: In speaking of the Change of the Ministry, I have spoken with as much respect to the Quality of the Persons, and the Dignity of their Office, as I could; and am persuaded, except to such as this Letter-Bully, I can have given no Offence — I have said, the Ministry Remov'd were honest Men, which is still my Opinion; and I ought to think so, and every Man ought to think so, till they can prove something to the contrary — I have indeed, forborn due Characters of the Persons Dismiss'd, Panegyrick is none of my Talent, Flattery I abhor, and Virtue needs none of my Homage —

But when I come to speak of the present Ministry, I appeal to their Justice, that what I have said, cannot be worthy their Resentment — I do say, and say it again, whatever they are by Principle, the Course of Things in the Administration, will make them Whiggs in Practice — I have explain'd my self already; nor is it worth my while to talk to this Gentleman's Irish Logick; that the Terms are Synonymous, and that Whigg, and Rogue, are two Words,

expressing the same Thing — I might return that by its Contraries, but I let it alone, the long and short of this Matter, will soon be apparent — And therefore let but this Throat-cutting Gentleman stay a while, and if in six Months he does not find it so, I'll give him leave most Non-Resistingly to cut my Throat.

And what shall we say now to the Case, if the wisest Men of the Party own it, and that some say, they must all turn Whiggs? — Why I'll tell you what I say.

1. I say, the High-Flyers will have play'd an odd Game, and shad themselves out; and indeed the View we have of this, is what makes them so angry already.
2. I say, High-Flying is no more consistent with the Administration now, than it was before — And let it offend who it will, I do give it as my Thoughts; there is no Game but a Low Game that will play, the t'other won't do at all, it won't go round; High-Flying is all Madness and Delirious, tends to Confusion, and so on to Destruction; 'Tis Moderation only, must do the Thing, Will Madness and Raving restore Credit? Will Persecution and Rabble, keep up the Government? These Things are Inconsistent, and can bring forth nothing; the only Policy of the Ministry, is Moderation, and that's still a Whigg, and hated as Whigg.

And these are the Reasons why I said, the Ministry will be all Whiggs, that is, they will proceed by Steps of Prudence and Moderation; and this, I know, you will call Whiggism, hate as such, Curse as such, and Divide from as such: If they do not do thus, they will do worse, as well for themselves, as for the Nation.

And here our High-Gentlemen are mightily in the wrong, as to their Terms, since the very thing that Denominates the present Ministry to be Whiggs, is that alone that Denominates them Honest-Men at the same time — To act by the best

Mea-

Measures, to make the Laws their Rule, to pursue the true Interest of England; to preserve Sacred the Liberties of the Subject; to pursue Vigorously the War, to preserve inviolable the Toleration; to keep Critically the Postulata of the two Kingdoms United, and to adhere to the Protestant Succession — These Things are Honest, Just, Honourable, and Necessary, and they cannot be honest Men without them; and yet these are the Things which will make them all *Whiggs* of Course, and for which you will call them *Whiggs*, and hate them for *Whiggs*: Now — Let the High-Party be angry, and they will be angry, that is certain; but let them be as Angry as they will, these Things must be done, these Things are absolutely necessary to be done; these Gentlemen cannot carry the Government on, nor support the Queen, upon any other Foot; and this makes me say they must be *Whiggs*.

This is the Reason, why I say the *High-Flyers* will divide from them; the Case is plain, these Things are Inconsistent with what we call the High-Party, and I appeal to themselves, are no Branch of their Design in the Change.

Ask a *High-Church* Man the following Questions, and let him Answer according to his Genuine Principles, you should certainly find it something like these.

Pray, Sir, What say you of the Union? —

D—n the Union, says he, I hate the *Presbyterians*; for England to put the Episcopal Church under the Foot of the *Presbyterians*, was the D—l — Shall the *Presbyterians* with their Cant possess the Churches, and keep out the Episcopal Church? Lord how long! See a New Tract Publish'd just now, at Edinburgh, Entitled, *NOW or NEVER*.

Pray, Sir, What say you of the Toleration?

— WHOLESOME SEVERITIES, says he, must be used, see *Sacheverell's Sermon*, Page 6. Review the Toleration, says he, now or never; take away the Dissenters Schools, says Dr. *Sacheverell*, that they may not Propa-

gate the Schism: Again hear the Scotch Author —

“The Gallies, Prisons, and several Sorts of Punishments, are the *Dissenters* cruel Lot in France; and were our *Dissenters* thus Manag'd, &c. — The *Dutch* are so Politick, as to admit none of their *Dissenters* into Places of Honour, or Profit, &c. That wise Commonwealth, ought to be to us a Precedent, and I think we should do well to Copy from them.” See the same Pamphlet, now or never, Printed at Edinburgh.

Pray, Sir, What say you of the Protestant Succession? — I could forgive King William all he did to us, says a famous Dr. . . . but that LEGACY, that D—d LEGACY, the SUCCESSION, that he left us; I can never forgive him that.

Now, Gentlemen, can these Men, and our New Ministry join? Can they go far together? — I would not offer such a thing to the new Ministers of State; it would be to say, they were the Queen's Enemies, that they were for the Pretender; in short, it would be Abusing and Affronting them in the highest Degree; and they would, no doubt, resent it, and ought to do so —

High Flying therefore, being thus Scandalously remote, from the Practice of the Administration, and that it is impossible they can stand together; the Consequence is plain, your Administration is *Whiggish*, and your Managers of the Publick Affairs must be *Whiggs*; let them be what they will, they must come over — Moderate Counsels must Guide them, Peace, Charity, Temper, and a Uniting of all Parties to the publick Interest, must be the Measures they will take, or they cannot Manage at all; and these are as Inconsistent with *High-Flying* Principles, as Light is with Darkness.

I shall go on in my next, to enquire into that Inconsistency of Principles, and to see whether the War can be carry'd on, Credit Maintain'd,

Maintain'd, the Pretender kept out, the Queen supported, and the Succession preserv'd, upon the Foot of our High-Flying Principles, or no; and this Enquiry will make Things a little plainer; there perhaps we may hear some of the High-Flying Language of the Age, and see how well

it will sound in the Mouth of a Minister of State: How it will suit with the Administration of the present Government, and how far it consists with the Queens Safety, and with the Honour of the Protestant Establishment of United Britain.

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N. B. His Mother, the Widow of the late Mr. *Christopher Bartlet*, lives at his House in

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